

AMENDMENT  
U.S. Appln. No. 10/661,476

REMARKS

Upon entry of the claim amendments, Claims 1-14 will be all the claims pending in the application.

Amended Claim 1 is supported by the description at page 6, lines 5-9.

Editorial amendments have been made to Claims 4-10 in order to render them consistent with amended Claim 1.

New Claims 11-14 are supported by the descriptions at page 2, line 19, and page 4, lines 12, 25, and 31, respectively.

No new matter has been added.

Referring to Section No. 2 at page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Applicants respectfully traverse. Claims 1-14 satisfy each and every requirement of §112. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the §112 rejection is requested.

Referring to Section No. 5 at page 3-6 of the Office Action, Claims 1-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,460,529 (“US ‘529”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,273,699 (“US ‘699”). Also, referring to Section No. 6 at page 6 of the Action, Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US ‘529 in view of US ‘699 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,045,365 (“US ‘365”).

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 requires the substrate obtained by spraying the powder onto the support to have a thickness of from 0.1 mm to 0.5 mm.

None of the prior art references applied by the Examiner discloses at least the above element of Claim 1. That is, none of the applied documents discloses a method for fabricating an AlN substrate from 0.1 mm to 0.5 mm thick, which is a problem to be solved by the present invention.

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Furthermore, an alleged *prima facie* case of obviousness is rebutted by showing that the art teaches away from the claimed invention. MPEP §2144.05(III).

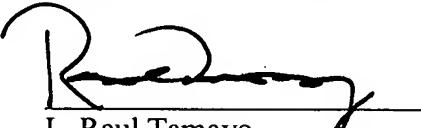
The primary reference, US '529, teaches away from the claimed invention. It discloses that its invention "is especially suited for thick walled pipes" having a wall thickness greater than 5 mm. Applicants refer to the abstract of the disclosure and column 2, line 6.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejections of Claims 1-8 and 10 and Claim 9.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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